

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Vincent Carl HARRADINE et al.

U.S. Serial No.: Filed Concurrently Herewith

Continuation of
International Appln. No.: PCT/GB01/01454

International Filing Date: 30 March 2001

Priority Date Claimed: 5 April 2000

Title of Invention: AUDIO AND/OR VIDEO GENERATION APPARATUS
AND METHOD OF GENERATING AUDIO AND/OR
VIDEO SIGNALS

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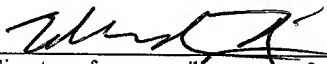
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Box Patent Application (35 U.S.C. 111)
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

Before the issuance of the first Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before line 1, add the following:

--This is a continuation of copending International Application PCT/GB01/01454 having an international filing date of 30 March 2001.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend Claims 3, 6, 8, 11, 14, 15, 18, 20-22, 24, 26-28, 29, 33, 35, 36, 40, 41, 44, 45, 49, 51, 55, 57 and 59 to read as follows:

3. (Amended) An audio and/or generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said meta data generated by said meta data generation processor is at least one picture which is representative of an image from said recorded video signals.

6. (Amended) An audio and/or video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said meta data includes a unique identification code for identifying the audio/video signals.

8. (Amended) A receiving apparatus for receiving and displaying the meta data communicated by the audio and/or video generation apparatus claimed in Claim 1.

11. (Amended) A meta data generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 9, wherein said meta data generated by said meta data generation processor includes at least one picture which is representative of an image from said recorded video signals.

14. (Amended) A storage medium on which information signals are recorded, said information signals being representative of the meta data generated by the generation apparatus according to Claim 9.

15. (Amended) A signal representing the meta data communicated by the generation apparatus according to Claim 9.

18. (Amended) A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 16, comprising
- an activity detector coupled to said meta data generation processor and arranged in operation to receive said video signals and to generate an activity signal indicative of a relative change of content of said video signals, wherein

- said meta data generation processor is arranged in operation to generate a plurality sample images, each of which is representative of a video image from said recorded video signals, said sample images being generated at times of change of content of said video signals indicated by said activity signal, an address of each of said sample images providing the location on said recording medium at which the corresponding video image is recorded.

20. (Amended) A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 18, wherein said activity detector generates said activity signal by from motion vectors of image components of said video image signal.

21. (Amended) A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 18,
- a display processor which is arranged in operation to provide a visible representation of said sample images.

22. (Amended) A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said video signals are representative of a plurality of video material items, and said meta data generation processor is arranged in operation to generate a preference marker in response to commands from a user in association with selected ones of said video material items.

24. (Amended) A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 16, comprising
- a data store coupled to said meta data generation processor, said at least one sample image and said address being stored in said data store separately from said recording medium.

26. (Amended) A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said recording medium is a random access memory, and said address indicates a place in said memory where said video image is recorded.

27. (Amended) A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said

recording medium is a linear recording medium and said address is a time code corresponding to a place on said recording medium where said video image is recorded.

28. (Amended) A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said meta data processor generates said sample images in accordance with a compression encoding process such as the Joint Photographic Experts Group compression encoding process.

29. (Amended) A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 16, wherein said meta data includes a unique identification code for identifying the video signals.

33. (Amended) A meta data generation processor as claimed in Claim 31, comprising

- an activity detector arranged in operation to receive said video signals and to generate an activity signal indicative of a relative change of content of said video signals, wherein
- said sample image generation processor is arranged in operation to generate a plurality sample images, each of which is representative of a video image from said recorded video signals, said sample images being generated at times of change of content of said video signals indicated by said activity signal, an address of each of said sample images providing the location on said recording medium at which the corresponding video image is recorded.

35. (Amended) A meta data generation processor as claimed in Claim 33, wherein said activity detector generates said activity signal by from motion vectors of image components of said video image signal.

36. (Amended) A meta data generation processor as claimed in Claim 31, comprising

- a sample image generation processor which is arranged in operation to receive video signals and to generate at least one sample image which is representative of a video image from the video signals, and
- an address detector which is arranged in operation to associate the sample image with an address of the video image in the video signals.

40. (Amended) A recording medium on which is stored data representative of the sample image and the address of the video signals representative of the sample image on the recording medium generated by the video generation apparatus according to Claim 16.

41. (Amended) A signal representing the sample image and the address of the video signals corresponding to said sample image which are generated by the video generation apparatus according to Claim 16.

44. (Amended) A system as claimed in Claim 42, wherein said audio and/or video generation apparatus is provided with a meta data generation tool which is arranged in operation to generate meta data describing said audio and/or video signals in combination with said content item list.

45. (Amended) A system as claimed in Claim 42, wherein said meta data generator generation tool is arranged to indicate a preferred one of said plurality of takes to be used for said at least one content item, and said ingestion processor is arranged to select said preferred take for said at least one content item consequent upon said indication.

49. (Amended) An acquisition processor as claimed in Claim 47, wherein said communications interface is arranged to receive signals representative of meta data identifying at least one audio/video material item recorded onto a recording medium corresponding to said at least one of said pre-planned audio/video material items.

51. (Amended) An acquisition processor as claimed in Claim 47, wherein said user interface is arranged to receive a command indicative of a preferred one of a plurality of audio/video material items to be used for one of said pre-planned audio/video material items, and said control processor is arranged in operation to store said indication in said data store in association with said selected audio/video material item.

55. (Amended) An audio and/or video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim

53, comprising

- a user interface coupled to said meta data generation processor and arranged in use to receive a command indicative of a preferred one of a plurality of audio/video material items to be used for one of said pre-planned audio/video material items, and said meta data generation processor is arranged in operation include in said meta data identifying said preferred one of said audio/video material items data representing said preferred indication.

57. (Amended) A computer program providing computer executable instructions, which when loaded on to a data processor configures said data processor to operate as an audio and/or video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 1.

58. (Amended) A computer program having computer executable instructions, which when loaded on to a data processor causes the processor to operate in accordance with the method according to Claim 13.

59. (Amended) A computer program product having a computer readable medium having recorded thereon information signals representative of the computer program claimed in Claim 57.

Cancel Claims 60-65.

Add the following new Claims:

--66. (New) A computer program providing computer executable instructions, which when loaded on to a data processor configures said data processor to operate as a meta data generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 9.--

--67. (New) A computer program providing computer executable instructions, which when loaded on to a data processor configures said data processor to operate as a video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 16.--

--68. (New) A computer program providing computer executable instructions, which

when loaded on to a data processor configures said data processor to operate as a meta data generation processor as claimed in Claim 36.--

--69. (New) A computer program providing computer executable instructions, which when loaded on to a data processor configures said data processor to operate as a system for generating an audio and/or video production as claimed in Claim 42.--

--70. (New) A computer program providing computer executable instructions, which when loaded on to a data processor configures said data processor to operate as an acquisition processor as claimed in Claim 47.--

--71. (New) A computer program providing computer executable instructions, which when loaded on to a data processor configures said data processor to operate as an audio and/or video generation apparatus is claimed in Claim 53.--

--72. (New) A computer program having computer executable instructions, which when loaded on to a data processor causes the processor to operate in accordance with the method according to Claim 37.--

--73. (New) A computer program product having a computer readable medium having recorded thereon information signals representative of the computer program claimed in Claim 66.--

--74. (New) A computer program product having a computer readable medium having recorded thereon information signals representative of the computer program claimed in Claim 67.--

--75. (New) A computer program product having a computer readable medium having recorded thereon information signals representative of the computer program claimed in Claim 68.--

--76. (New) A computer program product having a computer readable medium having recorded thereon information signals representative of the computer program claimed in Claim 69.--

--77. (New) A computer program product having a computer readable medium having recorded thereon information signals representative of the computer program claimed in Claim 70.--

78. (New) A computer program product having a computer readable medium having recorded thereon information signals representative of the computer program claimed in Claim 71.--

79. (New) A computer program product having a computer readable medium having recorded thereon information signals representative of the computer program claimed in Claim 58.--

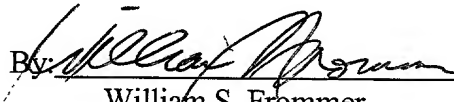
80. (New) A computer program product having a computer readable medium having recorded thereon information signals representative of the computer program claimed in Claim 72.--

REMARKS

This amendment is made to provide proper reference to the International application of which this is a continuation. See MPEP § 1895.01. The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple claim dependencies. The filing fee has been calculated based upon this Preliminary Amendment. The attached is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made**" and indicates the changes that have been made herein.

Respectfully submitted,

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“Version with markings to show changes made”

IN THE CLAIMS:

3. An audio and/or generation apparatus as claimed in Claims 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein said meta data generated by said meta data generation processor is at least one picture which is representative of an image from said recorded video signals.
6. An audio and/or video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 1 ~~any of Claims 1 to 5~~, wherein said meta data includes a unique identification code for identifying the audio/video signals.
8. A receiving apparatus for receiving and displaying the meta data communicated by the audio and/or video generation apparatus claimed in Claim 1 ~~any of Claims 1 to 7~~.
11. A meta data generation apparatus as claimed in Claims 9 ~~or 10~~, wherein said meta data generated by said meta data generation processor includes at least one picture which is representative of an image from said recorded video signals.
14. A storage medium on which information signals are recorded, said information signals being representative of the meta data generated by the generation apparatus according to claim 9 ~~any of Claims 1 to 7 and Claims 9 to 12~~.
15. A signal representing the meta data communicated by the generation apparatus according to claim 9 ~~any of Claims 1 to 7 and 9 to 12~~.
18. A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 ~~any of Claims 16 or 17~~, comprising
- an activity detector coupled to said meta data generation processor and arranged in operation to receive said video signals and to generate an activity signal indicative of a relative change of content of said video signals, wherein
 - said meta data generation processor is arranged in operation to generate a plurality sample images, each of which is representative of a video image from said recorded video

signals, said sample images being generated at times of change of content of said video signals indicated by said activity signal, an address of each of said sample images providing the location on said recording medium at which the corresponding video image is recorded.

20. A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claims 18 or 19, wherein said activity detector generates said activity signal by from motion vectors of image components of said video image signal.

21. A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 18 ~~any of Claim 18 to 20~~,
- a display processor which is arranged in operation to provide a visible representation of said sample images.

22. A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 ~~any of Claims 16 to 21~~, wherein said video signals are representative of a plurality of video material items, and said meta data generation processor is arranged in operation to generate a preference marker in response to commands from a user in association with selected ones of said video material items.

24. A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 ~~any of Claims 16 to 23~~, comprising
- a data store coupled to said meta data generation processor, said at least one sample image and said address being stored in said data store separately from said recording medium.

26. A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 ~~any of Claim 16 to 25~~, wherein said recording medium is a random access memory, and said address indicates a place in said memory where said video image is recorded.

27. A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 ~~any of Claims 16 to 26~~, wherein said recording medium is a linear recording medium and said address is a time code corresponding to a place on said recording medium where said video image is recorded.

28. A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 ~~any of Claims 16 to 27~~, wherein said meta data processor generates said sample images in accordance with a compression

encoding process such as the Joint Photographic Experts Group compression encoding process.

29. A video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 16 ~~any of Claims 16 to 28~~, wherein said meta data includes a unique identification code for identifying the video signals.

33. A meta data generation processor as claimed in Claim 31 ~~or 32~~, comprising

- an activity detector arranged in operation to receive said video signals and to generate an activity signal indicative of a relative change of content of said video signals, wherein
- said sample image generation processor is arranged in operation to generate a plurality sample images, each of which is representative of a video image from said recorded video signals, said sample images being generated at times of change of content of said video signals indicated by said activity signal, an address of each of said sample images providing the location on said recording medium at which the corresponding video image is recorded.

35. A meta data generation processor as claimed in Claims 33 ~~or 34~~, wherein said activity detector generates said activity signal by from motion vectors of image components of said video image signal.

36. A meta data generation processor as claimed in Claim 31 ~~any of Claims 31 to 35~~, comprising

- a sample image generation processor which is arranged in operation to receive video signals and to generate at least one sample image which is representative of a video image from the video signals, and
- an address detector which is arranged in operation to associate the sample image with an address of the video image in the video signals.

40. A recording medium on which is stored data representative of the sample image and the address of the video signals representative of the sample image on the recording medium generated by the video generation apparatus according to claim 16 ~~any of Claims 16 to 30, or the meta data generation process according to any of Claims 31 to 36.~~

41. A signal representing the sample image and the address of the video signals corresponding to said sample image which are generated by the video generation apparatus according to claim 16 ~~any of Claims 16 to 30, or the meta data generation processor according to any of Claims 31 to 36.~~

44. A system as claimed in Claims 42 ~~or 43~~, wherein said audio and/or video generation apparatus is provided with a meta data generation tool which is arranged in operation to generate meta data describing said audio and/or video signals in combination with said content item list.

45. A system as claimed in Claims 42, ~~43 or 44~~, wherein said meta data generator generation tool is arranged to indicate a preferred one of said plurality of takes to be used for said at least one content item, and said ingestion processor is arranged to select said preferred take for said at least one content item consequent upon said indication.

49. An acquisition processor as claimed in Claim 47 ~~or 48~~, wherein said communications interface is arranged to receive signals representative of meta data identifying at least one audio/video material item recorded onto a recording medium corresponding to said at least one of said pre-planned audio/video material items.

51. An acquisition processor as claimed in Claim 47 ~~any of Claims 47 to 50~~, wherein said user interface is arranged to receive a command indicative of a preferred one of a plurality of audio/video material items to be used for one of said pre-planned audio/video material items, and said control processor is arranged in operation to store said indication in said data store in association with said selected audio/video material item.

55. An audio and/or video generation apparatus as claimed in Claim 53 ~~any of Claims 53 or 54~~, comprising

- a user interface coupled to said meta data generation processor and arranged in use to receive a command indicative of a preferred one of a plurality of audio/video material items to be used for one of said pre-planned audio/video material items, and said meta data generation processor is arranged in operation include in said meta data identifying said preferred one of said

audio/video material items data representing said preferred indication.

57. A computer program providing computer executable instructions, which when loaded on to a data processor configures said data processor to operate as an audio and/or video generation apparatus as claimed in claim 1 ~~Claims 1 to 7, or a meta-data generation apparatus as claimed in any of Claims 9 to 12, or a video generation apparatus as claimed in Claims 16 to 30, or a meta data-generation processor as claimed in Claims 31 to 36, or a system for generating an audio and/or video production as claimed in Claims 42 to 46, or acquisition processor as claimed in any of Claims 47 to 52, or an audio and/or video generation apparatus as claimed in any of Claims 53 to 56.~~

58. A computer program having computer executable instructions, which when loaded on to a data processor causes the processor to operate in accordance with the method according to claim 13 ~~any of claims 13, 37 to 39.~~

59. A computer program product having a computer readable medium having recorded thereon information signals representative of the computer program Claimed in Claim 57 ~~any of Claims 57 or 58.~~